(iv) Participation of private sector for setting up of freight terminals is being attempted. A pilot project near Gurgaon has been undertaken for this purpose,

(v) A scheme for running mini rakes has been notified in order to cater to demand for less than train load short lead traffic.

( ) No, Sir.

(a) Does not arise.

Hill puffer trains

†711. SHRI BACHANI LEKHRAJ: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to run the hill puffer trains;

(b) if so, whether any steps have been taken by Government in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI O. RAJAGOPAL): (a) to (c) There is nothing known as hill puffer train on Indian Railways. Steam trains are already in operation on New Jalpaiguri-Darjeeling section. Proposals for introduction of steam trains on Neral-Matheran and Kalka-Shimla hill sections are under consideration. The decision will be taken subject to viability of the project and availability of funds.

Railway Zones without General Managers

712. SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that three Zonal Railways, namely Eastern, South Eastern and Metro Headquartered in Kolkata are presently Headless, with no General Managers;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.